10th November 1965]

SRI K. S. ABDUL WAHAB : Will the Government consider the proposal to issue licences to drivers with not less than 10 years service to drive heavy vehicles ?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, if the hon. Member suggests that in order to qualify for a heavy endorsement, the applicant must have put in ten years of service as an ordinary driver, we will be put to very great difficulties to find men to man our transport buses. On the other hand we are trying to give training, so far as State Transport is concerned, for our drivers in the training school run by us. We are also contemplating some measures to give training for heavy duty vehicle drivers.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : As the Hon. Minister pointed out, because of lack of co-operation from the public, I suggest a more strict enforcement of the rules. Will the Government consider and do the needful. 3-10 p.m.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : We are as strict as possible. There is a limit beyond which we cannot be strict.

Textile Mills in the State

* 169. *Q.*—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN (on behalf of DR. T. V. Sivanandam) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of Textile Mills in the State which have gone into production in the years 1959 and 1964;

(*b*) the total cost of (i) cotton produced in the State and (ii) cotton imported from foreign countries consumed in 1959 and 1964 ; and

(*c*) the total number of textile mills licensed yet to go on production as on 30th April 1965 ?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (a) One textile mill went into production in 1959 and eleven in 1964.

(*b*) Cotton produced in 1959–60 and 1964–65 was 3,86,870 bales and 4,30,400 bales respectively.

(*c*) 28.

Industrial Co-operative Societies

* 170 *Q.*—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN (on behalf of DR. T. V. Sivanandam : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number and names of Industrial Co-operative Societies for weavers in Coimbatore and Salem districts as on the latest available date with year of starting;

(*b*) the financial assistance and other help given by the Government to each society so far; and